

# SOLOS IN SESSION

## Busy Meeting of the Common Council.

### BONDS AWARDED AGAIN

Randolph Kiehl & Company Get Them at Their Bid of 101.70. Money Appropriated for the Public Schools.

Here is what the Common Council did last night:

Approved \$1,500 to the public schools of the city.

Awarded the bond sale to Randolph Kiehl & Co., of Cincinnati.

Appointed a special committee to act with a similar committee of railroad men regarding the crossings over the railway tracks.

Received a request from the Newport News and Old Point Railway and Electric Company regarding the laying of tracks on certain streets in the city.

Ordered the plugs to be placed in East End.

Referred the ordinance increasing the salary of policemen to the Finance Committee.

Granted the Newport News Railroad Company permission to cross Third-second street between two avenues.

Passed the ordinance regarding the driving of certain vehicles on sidewalks.

Received the auditor's report for the month of February.

Last night's session of the Common Council was a busy one. It was the only adjournment of unusual amount of business had been disposed of. When President O'Donnell rapped the council to order there were twelve members present and the body soon settled down to business.

There was one message from Mayor Post. It read:

The Honorable President and Common Council:

"Gentlemen: I have been informed that acts amounting to the charter of the city so as to increase the number of policemen to twenty-eight, and authorizing an increase of the cost of the proposed crossings, which the city must pay, have been passed.

"As soon as possible of present business will permit the consideration of these questions, and in order to facilitate the passing of the same, I would respectfully recommend that the work of designing suitable structures be intrusted to a joint committee consisting of such representatives of the city as the council may appoint to act with representatives of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway as to management may select, on a basis say, of three for the city and two for the railroad.

"I make this recommendation because the structure proposed for the Twenty-eighth street crossing must carry the tracks of the railway company and the other crossings are to be constructed over their tracks, and all must be made to conform to the same standard from the railroad as well as from the city's standpoint. As the railroad must pay one-half of the cost they will be interested in economical construction, and considerations of safety for passenger and freight traffic of their company will insure that the strength and durability of the structures will not be sacrificed to unreasonable economy.

"On the other hand, a representation of the railroad company on the committee will enable the committee to more quickly decide upon a design that will be mutually approved by the city and the railroad company.

"W. A. POST.

Acting on the advice of the mayor the council created a committee composed of Messrs. Van, Mackey and Burcher.

City Clerk J. A. Massie read a letter from Walter Stanton & Co., of New York, in which the firm declined to take the city bonds at the bid of 102.25, claiming that the bid was only a premium of 102.25 on the whole amount. The letter was received and filed.

Regarding the appropriation of \$1,500 for the public schools of the city, Mr. J. A. Willett, chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that after considering the matter the committee would recommend that the sum be appropriated. Mr. Willett stated that it would be a tight squeeze and strict economy would have to be practiced to make ends meet.

Mr. Lenz spoke against the recommendation, saying that it was reduced to a resolution he proposed to offer an amendment that the city lend the money to the school board of trustees. "I am in favor of continuing the schools," said he, "but we need money for other purposes and as the chairman of the Finance Committee says we must be economical, I will agree to lend the money, but not to give it away."

Mr. Willett then offered his resolution appropriating \$1,500 to the city schools. Mr. Lenz offered an amendment substituting the word "loan."

The amendment prevailed by a vote of 8 to 4, as follows:

Yeas—Murray, Doherty, Hughes, Lenz, McLaughlin, Mackey, Thomas, Wilkie.

Nays—Burcher, O'Donnell, Van, Willett.

Nays—Burcher, O'Donnell, Van, Willett. From the Ordinance Committee, Chairman J. F. Hughes reported the amendment to the ordinance increasing the salary of policemen from \$50 to \$60 a month, and the salary of the sergeant from \$60 to \$65 a month.

The ordinance was referred to the Finance Committee.

City Auditor J. W. Reed submitted his report for the month of February. It was as follows:

RECEIPTS.	
Balance on hand Feb. 1, 1898	\$19,840.50
Rec'd from building permits	23.00
Rec'd from Police Court	237.00
Rec'd from taxes (real estate)	130.83
Rec'd from taxes (personal)	8.50
Rec'd from city of New York	190.00
Rec'd from engineer's fee	1.00
Total	\$20,432.41

DISBURSEMENTS.	
Police department	\$137.78
Police department	794.65
Health department	232.04
Street department	\$1,658.51
Alms house and poor	6.50
Court house and grounds	218.92
Stationary and printing	14.25
Huntington titles	30.00
Election expenses	19.00
Jury expenses	61.00
Salaries	624.99
Treasurer's commissions	28.89
Incidental	93.10
Engineer's department	8.50
Licenses refunded	10.42
Fire department	67.20
Total	\$5,662.69

Upon the recommendation of the Light and Water Committee three plugs were ordered to be placed at the following points:

Corner of Warwick and Hampton avenues.

On Twenty-eighth street, between Jefferson and Marshall avenues.

On Twenty-eighth street, between

# FOR A HOSPITAL SHIP

## Government May Purchase La Grande Duchesse.

### NAVAL SURGEON HERE

He Inspects the Steamer With a View of Purchasing Her in the Event of Hostilities With Spain.

In the event of hostilities between Uncle Sam and Spain, the Plant Line steamer La Grande Duchesse, which is at the wharf here having new boilers put in, will be converted into a hospital ship for the United States navy.

Yesterday Surgeon General W. K. Van Fleet, U. S. Navy, was at the wharf and inspected La Grande Duchesse. He examined the plans of the vessel, and it is understood that he was pleased with her and will recommend to the navy department that she be purchased and used as a hospital ship. La Grande Duchesse is not only a passenger vessel, but she is a specialty. Then, she is sturdy, and the kind of a ship needed for carrying the sick and wounded.

Should this country become involved in war with Spain and La Grande Duchesse be used as a hospital ship, she will fly the flag of the Red Cross Society, and will be thus protected, so that she is steady, and the kind of a ship needed for carrying the sick and wounded.

As the steamer is in the columns here, La Grande Duchesse is an auxiliary cruiser, capable of carrying a large armament of guns, and it is expected that the vessel will be ready to go into commission by the first of May. Of course, if this is needed for the ship, the work can be pushed to completion.

THE "GREENS" ARE BLUE NOW.

V. M. C. A. Membership Contest Won by the "Reds."

Persons going along Washington avenue in the vicinity of the V. M. C. A. rooms at 8 o'clock last night, would have been justified in thinking that a tribe of Apaches in full war paint had descended upon the city. It was a scene of confusion and excitement. The "Reds" were in the majority, and the "Greens" were in the minority. The "Reds" were the Young Men's Christian Association, and the "Greens" were the Young Women's Christian Association. The "Reds" were the "Blue" and the "Greens" were the "Red."

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# SEND IN YOUR COPY.

## Business men who have contracted for space in the Illustrated Launching Edition of the Daily Press, to be published a week from next Thursday, should send in their copy at once.

### ANOTHER BUSY DAY

#### Warlike Preparations of Uncle Sam Continue.

#### BOARD LEAVES HAVANA

#### Report Expected This Week. Naval Affairs Committee Disposed to Build Six Battleships, Spain Seeking a European Alliance.

(By Telegraph.)

WASHINGTON, March 15.—This was another busy day in the war and naval departments. Secretary Alger was called to make an allotment of funds for the appropriation of \$500,000, which will be used for the purchase of the battleships. These battleships have been ordered by the navy department, and the navy department has been ordered to purchase them. The navy department has been ordered to purchase them.

Mr. L. A. Meyers has returned from a business trip to the city. The contribution of St. Vincent's Catholic church to the Cuban relief fund has been increased to \$4,811. Mrs. Clara B. Hays, of Fredericksburg, has been elected to the position of secretary of the American Red Cross Society in this city.

Miss Sadie Branch, of Twenty-sixth street, who has been visiting friends and relatives in Smithfield, returned yesterday.

Mr. Chas. B. Baker has returned from a visit to friends in Richmond. Dr. W. R. Aylett has returned from a business trip to the city.

Senator Murphy and party, of New York, are at Old Point. Mrs. Hattie Freeman, of West Virginia, is visiting in Richmond.

Miss Plutcher, of the Station, Md., is the guest of her brother, Mr. Henry R. Walte.

Miss Annie Mardn, of Isle of Wight county, is the guest of Miss Alice King, in East End.

Mr. W. A. Caldwell, of Portsmouth, State deputy for the Knights of Daughters of the Empire, is in the city.

Mrs. James Cunningham and family left Monday for Baltimore, where Mr. Cunningham has accepted a position.

Mrs. Henrietta Beaver, of Thirty-second street, is the guest of her parents in Stafford county, near Fredericksburg.

Miss Kate Ryan, of Portsmouth, has returned to her home after an extended visit to her sister, Mrs. S. A. O'Brien, on the coast.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Barstow have returned to their home in this city, after an extended visit to relatives and friends in Pennsylvania.

# NEWPORT NEWS DEMOCRATIC CLUB

## Doors Wide Open and the Campaign On in Earnest.

The Newport News Democratic Club fired the first campaign gun last night, when the doors of the club, in Moss Hall, were thrown open to the public. The club has been organized for the purpose of conducting a campaign for the election of 1898. The club has been organized for the purpose of conducting a campaign for the election of 1898.

President E. S. Robinson presided over the meeting. There was a number of speakers present, including Mr. J. B. Lacey, of West Point, Va., and each made a short address.

The new cruiser Amazon, according to the latest reports, will be named after the city of Newport News. The vessel will be built at the Newport News shipyard, and will be launched in the near future.

The torpedo boat Foote arrived at Jacksonville this afternoon. The Macdonalds sailed from Norfolk for Boston, and the schooner "The Fish Hawk" made necessary by her long Atlantic cruise. The Brooklyn went to Newport News for coal. The Marblehead, which is taking on stores at Norfolk, sailed for the coast.

Judge Advocate General Lee received a telegram this afternoon from Havana announcing the arrival there of the cruiser Amazon. It is expected that the vessel will greatly facilitate the work of the navy department.

The chairman of this committee, Mr. R. G. Beck